



Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed, Thurles



Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment

Policy Area	Schools
Policy Reference Number	CMCE/CH.SAFE/061/4
Version No.	2
Document Drafted by	Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed, Thurles
Date previous version adopted by BOM noted by TETB	3 April 2025 20 May 2025
Date reviewed / amended by school	February 2026
Date reviewed / adopted by BOM	21 May 2026
Date noted / to be noted by TETB	8 September 2026
Policy Review Date	Annually
Date of Withdrawal of Obsolete Policy	21 May 2026 Policy Reference No. CMCE/CH.SAFE/061/3 Version No. 2



Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed

For:	Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed
At:	Castlemeadows, Thurles. Co. Tipperary, E41W678

This school is a: (tick appropriate) primary post-primary special school

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and 2025, Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment set out in this document.

The board of management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the department's Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Name of the Designated Liaison Person (DLP): Mr Denis Quinn

Name of the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP/DDLP): Ms Clare Wallace

In the absence of the DLP, the Deputy DLP shall assume responsibilities of the DLP

Name of Relevant Person

Mr Denis Quinn

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

0504-21734

principal@cmco.ie

Under the Children First Act 2015 Relevant Person means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. This person is nominated by the board of management to manage and provide oversight of child protection concerns/allegations of child abuse.

Name of Chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the Chief Executive or their delegate: Ms Clodagh Kelly

In the event that both DLP and DDLP are absent and unavailable, and where there is no staff member formally acting in their role, the chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the chief executive or their delegate, assumes the role of DLP.

The board of management recognises that child protection and safeguarding permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In all of these, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare. The school will:

- Recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations.
- Fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children.
- Fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters.
- Adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm happening to children and protect members of school personnel from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of child abuse.
- Develop a practice of openness with parents/guardians and encourage parental/guardian involvement in the education of their children.
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 in dealing with child protection matters.
- Adhere to the above principles in relation to any vulnerable adult.

Procedures and Measures in Place

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance 2017*, and *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024)*, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

> Procedure for the Management of Allegations of Abuse or Misconduct against School Personnel Relating to a Child Availing of our Service

- ~ Where any member of school personnel is the subject of any investigation in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in relation to a child attending the school, the school is required to adhere to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of *the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.

> Procedure for the Safe Recruitment and Selection of School Personnel to Work with Children

- ~ The school is required to adhere to the requirements of the Vetting Act. The selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, requires the school to adhere to the statutory vetting requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016, and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and Youth and available on the gov.ie website and as outlined in Chapter 10 of the procedures.
- ~ A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons.

> Procedure for Provision of and Access to Child Safeguarding Training and Information, Including the Identification of the Occurrence of Harm

- ~ The school provides information and training to members of school personnel in relation to the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) as follows:
 - ~ The school has provided each member of school personnel, including any new members of school personnel, (employees and volunteers, board of management members, student teachers and those on work experience) with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
 - ~ The school ensures that members of school personnel have availed of relevant training and completed child protection training.
 - ~ The school encourages board of management members to avail of any relevant training and complete child protection training.
 - ~ The board of management ensures that records of all staff and board member child protection training are maintained.

> Procedure for the Reporting of Child Protection or Welfare Concerns to Tusla

~ All members of school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, in relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla. Mandated reporting applies to all registered teachers and any other mandated person who may be employed by the school, for example a chaplain or nurse. A full list of those people who are mandated persons is set out in Appendix 1 procedures.

> Procedure for Maintaining a List of the Persons (if any) in the Relevant Service Who Are Mandated Persons

~ There is a procedure in place to maintain a list of mandated persons. Schools may on occasion employ additional staff who are mandated by virtue of their profession. This list will include all registered teachers and identify additional employees that are not registered teachers.

> Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools this person is the DLP)

~ There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.

The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the board of management carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.

Note: The procedures and measures in place outlined above, are not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual boards of management shall also include in this section such other procedures and measures that are of relevance to the school.

This statement has been published on the school's website or will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association, the patron and parents/guardians. A copy of this statement and risk assessment will be made available to Tusla and the department if requested.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed, Thurles

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
1	<p>Interactions between staff and students including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Classroom teaching ● Homework club/evening study ● Outdoor teaching activities ● Sporting Activities ● Extra-Curricular Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel ● Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a student and staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has provided and informed each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Student Safeguarding Statement via email, and this is also available on the CMCO Hub. ● New staff are required to submit proof of training and to attest to having read the policy and safeguarding statement ● The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel ● School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025 ● School personnel shall adhere to the Teaching Council's Code of Professional Conduct (2016).
2	<p>Interaction between students including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dismissal of Class ● Recreation breaks for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students unsupervised during timetable classes ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students ● Risk of harm due to bullying of student 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers informed that they must supervise students for the duration of their timetable ● The school ensures appropriate supervision of students during breaks. Schedule approved by the BOM ● The school has an Anti-Bullying/Bí Cineálta Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's <i>Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools and Bí Cineálta guidelines</i>

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
	<p>students Movement between classes, access and egress to and from classrooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use of toilets ● Outdoor teaching activities ● Sporting Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to racism ● Risk of student being harmed in the school by another student ● Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a student and another student 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school undertakes anti-racism awareness through CSPE classes covering Rights and Responsibilities, Human Dignity, Interdependence and Development, the first year belonging plus programme where the sow racism the red card programme is used and friendship week. ● The school has in place a code of behaviour for students

3.1	Students' arrival (access) to school facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students entering and leaving school. ● Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel. ● Risk of student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel. ● Risk of student being harmed in the school by another student. ● Risk of student being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school ensures appropriate supervision of students for daily arrival and dismissal as per the allocation provided under the Supervision & Substitution Scheme of the Department of Education and Youth. ● Once a year, the school sends information explaining exactly when staff are available to supervise students. ● Breakfast Club opens at 8.15 - students to access breakfast club only. Canteen and open area outside the canteen are only areas that are accessible until 8.40. Students can only go to lockers at 8.40 ● Canteen staff supervising students during breakfast club. ● The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel. ● School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025. ● The school operates a Code of behaviour. A Code of Behaviour ensures safety during morning arrival by establishing school expectations for all students. It mitigates physical harm by explicitly prohibiting dangerous actions thus reducing the likelihood of accidents. It acts as a deterrent against bullying during this unstructured time and prevents students from leaving the premises. Crucially, the Code mandates immediate compliance with staff instructions thereby transforming a potentially chaotic environment into a controlled, orderly space. ● Visiting Speaker policy - see same at www.cmco.ie
-----	---	---	---

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
3.2	Dismissal of students/leaving school facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to being unsupervised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Per Code of Behaviour students may only sign out with a parent/guardian during the school day (unless over 18). ● If a student is being sent home, they must be released into the care of their parent/guardian or an adult who has been agreed in advance by a parent/guardian. ● If a student leaves without permission during timetabled time - parents/guardians are contacted. If parents do not know where the student is the Gardaí are contacted. ● At end of school day a teacher is on duty using the Supervision roster.
4	One-to-one teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching situation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one teaching and counselling with students see https://www.cmco.ie/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2023/12/CMCO-One-to-one-counselling-and-teaching_7.12.2023-BOM.pdf ● School Management endeavours that all classrooms, meeting rooms have a glass panel in the door and that, where possible the teacher will leave the door open. The student will always sit in view of the open door/glass pane. ● All teachers are garda vetted and as members of the teaching council are governed by their Code of Professional Conduct (2016).
5	One-to-one counselling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm in one-to-one counselling situation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has in place one-to-one teaching and counselling with students. This mitigates risk for example by restricting counselling to designated rooms with visual access (glass panels or open doors), it explicitly defines the counsellor's responsibilities, creating strict professional boundaries and it mandates where records are kept. ● School Management endeavours that all classrooms, meeting rooms have a glass panel in the door and that, where possible the teacher will leave the door open. The student will always sit in view of the open door/glass pane.

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All teachers are garda vetted and as members of the teaching council are governed by their code of ethics.
6	School outings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out of school activities Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending out of school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has in place an Educational School Tours/ Trips and extra-curricular Sporting Activities Policy and clear procedures in respect of same. see https://www.cmco.ie/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2023/12/CMCO-Educational-Tours-and-Out-of-School-Activities-Policy_7.12.2023-BOM.pdf School Management endeavours that all personnel who may be involved with students have up to date vetting in place. An adequate supervision rota is put in place to ensure that students are supervised at all times while attending out of school activities. All event organisers must set up a compass event and as part of that they must tick the box that they are aware of policy pertaining to trips. A template to support the risk assessment will be provided to staff. All teachers are garda vetted and as members of the Teaching Council are governed by their Code of Professional Conduct (2016).
7	School trips involving overnight stay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of student being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out of school activities Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending out of school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has a comprehensive School Tours Policy which is reviewed regularly. A risk assessment is carried out before any students go on a foreign trip and the school personnel accompanying students are briefed on the protocol to follow in the event of an emergency. An Information evening is also provided for parents/guardians and pupils. The school has in place an Educational School Tours/ Trips and extra-curricular Sporting Activities Policy and clear procedures in respect of the same. Staff are trained on these procedures and on appropriate interventions should a risk arise. All event organisers must set up a compass event and as part of that they must tick the box that they are aware of policy pertaining to trips. A template to support the risk assessment will be provided to staff.

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teachers are garda vetted and as members of the teaching council are governed by their code of ethics.
8	School trips involving foreign travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of student being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out of school activities • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending out of school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school observes all current guidelines and notices from the Department of Education and Youth and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade regarding threat levels in other jurisdictions. • The school has put in place a comprehensive School Tours Policy which is reviewed every two years. In compliance with Tipperary Education Training Board (TETB) requirements, a risk assessment is carried out before. A member of the SLT will sign off on this with the organising staff member. • All event organisers must set up a compass event and as part of that they must tick the box that they are aware of policy pertaining to trips. • Parents/guardians must provide up to date relevant medical reports and the school personnel accompanying students are briefed by parents/guardians, on the protocol to follow in the event of an emergency. This is minuted by the tour organiser and signed by parents/guardians and tour organiser. • An adequate supervision roster is put in place to ensure that students are supervised at all times while attending out of school activities. • A Mobile Phone Policy and Internet Acceptable Usage Policy are in place, which govern the use of electronic devices in the school. These also refer to the standards expected of students in relation to their use of social media. • Parents/guardians are updated and briefed on a regular basis regarding use of social media. The school has in place an Educational School Tours/ Trips and extra-curricular Sporting Activities Policy and clear procedures in respect of same. • All teachers are garda vetted and as members of the Teaching Council are governed by their Code of Professional Conduct (2016). • Review following each tour-by-tour Coordinator.

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Annual review by the Senior Leadership Team.
9	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out of school activities ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending an off-site facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has in place an Educational School Tours/ Trips and extra-curricular Sporting Activities Policy and clear procedures in respect of same. ● Supervised by a member of staff at all times while on these activities. ● An adequate supervision roster is put in place to ensure that students are supervised at all times while attending out of school activities. ● A Physical Education Policy and a First Aid Policy is in place and reviewed regularly.
10	Annual Sports Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending out of school activities ● Risk of student being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out of school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has in place an Educational School Tours/ Trips and extra-curricular Sporting Activities Policy and clear procedures in respect of the same. ● An adequate supervision roster is put in place to ensure that students are supervised at all times while attending out of school activities. ● A Physical Education Policy is in place and reviewed regularly. ● Activities are risk assessed prior to events.
11	School transport arrangements Use of Bus escorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed while a student is travelling to/from a school activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is part of the current ETB tender that the company who is awarded the contract will confirm that their drivers and employees are Garda vetted. This is part of the process of awarding the contract. ETB to ensure confirmation of this. ● All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ● The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel ● School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
			<p>First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
12	Management of challenging behaviour amongst students, including appropriate use of restraint where required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of student being harmed in the school by another student 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has in place a code of behaviour for students - Annual review and update of policy. Consistent monitoring of implementation of policy. • An anti-bullying/Bí Cineálta Policy is in place and is reviewed annually. • An adequate supervision roster is put in place to ensure that students are supervised. • As part of the code of behaviour a “report” system is in place. • A Student Support Team is in place and meets on a weekly basis. All members of the team have received training. • A Mobile Phone Policy and Internet Acceptable Usage Policy are in place in the school, which govern the use of electronic devices in the school. They also refer to the standards expected of students in relation to their use of social media. • Camera surveillance can be used to assist in investigation of breach of the code of behaviour. • All doors have windows. • All teachers are garda vetted and as members of the teaching council are governed by their Code of Professional Conduct (2016). • The school has in place a “one to one counselling and teaching policy”. • Staff are required to undergo Safeguarding training and teachers are aware of their role as mandated people. • A member of the SLT team is trained in the appropriate use of restraint.

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
13	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of students, confiscation of phones etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A comprehensive Code of Behaviour policy is in place and reviewed annually. ● An anti-bullying/Bí Cineálta Policy is in place and is reviewed annually. ● An adequate supervision roster is put in place to ensure that students are supervised. ● A Pastoral Care policy is in place in the school in line with the School's Mission Statement & Ethos. ● A Mobile Phone Policy and Internet Acceptable Usage Policy are in place in the school, which govern the use of electronic devices in the school. They also refer to the standards expected by all.
14	Care of students with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm to students with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities ● Risk of harm to student while a student is receiving intimate care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An Inclusion Policy is in place in the school and is reviewed & monitored by the AEN Coordinator with School Management on a regular basis. ● An adequate SNA timetable is in place and is adapted where necessary, to ensure adequate supervision of and care of students with AEN. ● Regular meetings with the AEN. Coordinator and School Management. ● A Student Support Team is in place at and meets on a weekly basis. All members of the team have received training. ● A Pastoral Care policy is in place in the school in line with the School's Mission Statement and Ethos. ● The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
15	Care of students with specific vulnerabilities/ needs including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel ● Risk of student being harmed in the school by another student 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy/Bi Cineálta policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's <i>Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools and Bí Cineálta guidelines</i> ● The school has in place a code of behaviour for all students

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students from ethnic minorities /migrants ● Members of the Traveller community ● Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) students and students perceived to be LGBT ● Students of minority religions ● Children in care ● Children on CPNS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to bullying of student 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has a student support team which caters for the needs of students in the “few” category on the continuum of support ● The school has DEIS status and consequently the support of HSCL and SCP are available to our families and students. DEIS status provides vital safety nets for vulnerable students. The Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) bridges gaps between home and school, ensuring at-risk families stay engaged. Meanwhile, the School Completion Programme (SCP) offers targeted interventions—like after school homework clubs and therapeutic support—to prevent disengagement and reduce the risk of neglect or educational failure. ● The school maintains active liaison and cooperation with relevant statutory agencies (e.g., Social Services/Tusla) and foster carers to ensure the educational welfare and safeguarding of Children in Care ● The school is an active member of WorldWide Global Schools which seeks to educate teachers on global justice issues such as migration, indigenous cultures, racism and how to deal with these topics in everyday classroom spaces.
16	Children with Medical needs/Administration of Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm while receiving care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place a policy for the administration of medication to students ● Details of pupils with medical conditions are available subject to consent to relevant staff and school Management
17	Administration of First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm while student receiving care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place a policy for the administration of First Aid ● A number of staff are trained in Occupational First Aid ● A number of staff are trained on how to use the Defibrillator

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AED guidelines are in place
18	Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk that curriculum is not covered or covered correctly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. implements in full the SPHE curriculum including the Junior Cycle Short course and Senior cycle SPHE • Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has an RSE Policy • Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle • SPHE coordinator in place • SPHE/RSE teachers fully trained where possible
19	Participation by students in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of distress on part of student 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students have the option to opt-out of religious instruction and ceremonies on the request of their parents/guardians. • Supervision is arranged in such instances
20	Use of Information and Communication Technology by students in school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to students inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by students • Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by students • School has SENSO to control devices purchased through wriggle • School uses PDST broadband filtering

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
21	Students participating in work experience in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in work experience ● Risk of injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.
22	Students from Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. participating in work experience elsewhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in work experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students of the school undertaking work experience in external organisations
23	Recruitment of school personnel including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers ● SNAs ● Admin staff ● Caretaker ● Cleaners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. by a member of school personnel who has not been Garda Vetted or screened at recruitment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TETB adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DEY circulars in relation to recruitment and vetting ● The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel ● School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025 ● All new staff are given the digital link to Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.'s Student Safeguarding Statement ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. encourages staff to avail of relevant training ● Staff briefing at the beginning of academic year on statutory and non-statutory responsibilities

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
24	<p>Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum and / or support sports and other extra-curricular activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sports coaches ● External Tutors/Guest Speakers ● Volunteers/Parents in school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. by volunteer or visitor to Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place a Visiting Speakers Policy for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches ● A teacher will also accompany students ● Parents/Guardians who volunteer are required to undergo Garda Vetting through TETB.
25	<p>Fundraising events involving students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fundraising outside school is treated as an educational activity and Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has a Trips and Educational Activity Policy in place. ● If a student is representing Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. the code of behaviour applies
26	<p>Use of video/photography/ other media to record / at school events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of breach of GDPR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel ● School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025 ● All School personnel are made aware of their duty to report such breaches to school management and/or An Garda Síochána.

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opt-in / out question for parents/guardians to indicate preferences re video recording/student images each time if an image of their child is proposed being used.
27	Use of student images for PR purposes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of breach of GDPR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opt-in / out question for parents/guardians to indicate preferences re student images.
28	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of student being harmed in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. by a student teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements see https://www.cmco.ie/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2023/12/CMCO-School-Placement_7.12.2023-BOM.pdf Student teachers are given a pack which references all of our policies
29	After school use of school premises by other organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of student being harmed in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. by a visitor to the school Shared facility with the GAA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. requires insurance and child protection details to be in place by the visiting organisation Students using the Dome are under the supervision of a teacher.
30	Use of school premises by other organisations during school day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of student being harmed in the school by a visitor to Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding service level agreement in place prior to school being used. Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has provided each external organisation/staff with a copy of the school's Student Safeguarding Statement and procedures. The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel External personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
31a	Non-curricular related visitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. by a visitor/contractor to the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has a guest speaker policy in place.
31b	Non-curricular related contractors present in school during school hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. by a visitor/contractor to the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has a Health and Safety policy. ● Policy of external contractors in place and all stakeholders informed about policy and when contractors on site. ● It will be incumbent on the contractor to confirm the appropriate child protection arrangements are in place before TETB award contracts. ● TETB to ensure that contractor confirms that CP arrangements are in place.
32	Non-curricular related visitors / contractors present during after school activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of student being harmed in the school by a visitor/contractor to Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has a Health and Safety policy. ● Policy of external contractors in place and all stakeholders informed about policy and when contractors on site. ● TETB to ensure that contractor confirms that CP Child Protection arrangements are in place.
33	Use of Information and Communication Technology by staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with students in an appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner ● Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has provided each member of school staff with a link to a copy of the school's Student Safeguarding Statement. ● The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel ● School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025 ● School personnel are expected to adhere to the Teaching Council's Code of Professional Conduct. ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff.

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
34	Training of school personnel in child protection matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel ● Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ● The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel ● School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025 ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. ensures that personnel to avail of relevant training ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. maintains records of all personnel and board member training ● New staff are required to undergo training and submit proof of same
35	Use of canteen facilities including Breakfast club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ● The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel ● School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025 ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. operates supervision in line with allocation for same by the Department of Education and Youth

	List of school activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedure / Measure in place to Mitigate Risk
36	Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel ● Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has provided each member of school staff with a copy of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.'s Student Safeguarding Statement. ● The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel ● School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025 ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. requires all staff to avail of relevant training. ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff as set out in Circular 0048/2018.
37	Risk associated with remote or distance learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm to students in the remote/online space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely and has communicated this to parents/guardians. ● Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has an Acceptable Use Policy which includes a section on using smart phones and tablet devices in school by pupils per circular 38/2018.

Glossary of terms used

Harm	“Harm” in relation to a child has the meaning assigned to it under section 2 of the Children First Act 2015, that is, assault, ill treatment, neglect of a child that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare, or sexual abuse of a child. Harm can result from a single incident or from multiple instances.
Teaching Council’s Code of Professional Conduct (2016)	The Teaching Council’s Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers (Updated 2nd Edition, 2016) serves as a "guiding compass" for registered teachers in Ireland, outlining the ethical foundation and standards required of the profession. It has legal standing under the Teaching Council Acts 2001–2015 and can be found at https://www.teachingcouncil.ie/assets/uploads/2023/09/code-of-professional-conduct-for-teachers1.pdf
CPNS	The CPNS is a securely held national list that records the names of children who have been identified as being at ongoing risk of significant harm and are, or have been, subject to a CPP agreed at a CPC.

Important Note: It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of “harm” as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk. The definition of harm is set out in *page 5 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*

In undertaking this risk assessment, the board of management has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this school and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on **21.05.2026**. It shall be reviewed as part of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed _____ Date _____
Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed _____ Date _____
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management